

# Factorial growth of perturbation theory, power corrections, and extraction of quark masses and $\alpha_s$

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INSPIRE



# Prototypical $\alpha_s$ Determination

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- Consider an “effective charge” with a single hard scale:

$$\mathcal{R}(Q) = R(Q) + C_p \frac{\Lambda^p}{Q^p}$$

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$$R(Q) = \sum_{l=0} r_l(\mu/Q) \alpha_s(\mu)^{l+1}$$

- Perturbative part and power correction inseparable.



# Factorial Growth

---

- Even in quantum mechanics, high orders of perturbation theory grow factorially [e.g., [Bender & Wu 1971](#), [1973](#)].
- Also in QFT [e.g., [Gross & Neveu 1974](#), [Lautrup 1977](#)].
- In pQCD,  $r_l$  grow factorially (known for a long time):

$$r_l \sim R_0^{(p)} \left( \frac{2\beta_0}{p} \right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)} \equiv R_l^{(p)}$$

for  $l \gg 1$ . Here  $b = \beta_1/2\beta_0^2 \stackrel{n_f=3}{=} 32/81 \approx 0.4$ .

- Does  $r_l = \{1, 1.38, 5.46, 26.7\}$  start growing by  $l = 3$ ?

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# Examples

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- Static energy = energy between two static sources,  $p = 1$ :
  - its Fourier transform,  $p > 1$ ;
  - its derivative, the “static force” ( $p \geq 9$ );
- Bjorken sum rule,  $p \in \{2, 4, 6, \dots\}$ .
- Quark mass,  $p \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .
- Adler function,  $p \in \{4, 6, 8, \dots\}$ .

# Outline

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- Introduction
- Power Corrections and Factorial Growth
- New Approximation for Perturbative Series
- Borel Summation
- Worked Example: Static Energy
- Two or More Power Corrections
- Conclusions & Outlook

# Power Corrections and Factorial Growth

# Summary of Math in [arXiv:2310.151137](https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.151137) [in JHEP]

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- Use some simple steps and the RGE (which connects  $\mu$  independence of  $R(Q)$  to  $Q$  dependence of  $R(Q)$ —
  - obtain a more slowly growing set of coefficients,  $f_k^{(p)}$ .
- Invert an infinite matrix (lower triangular).
- Simplify and clarify “minimal renormalon subtraction (MRS)” of [arXiv:1701.00347](https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.00347) and [arXiv:1712.04983](https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.04983) [Komijani].

# Main New Result

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- Exact result (“=” not “~”):

$$r_l = \left(\frac{2\beta_0}{p}\right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)} \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left(\frac{p}{2\beta_0}\right)^k f_k^{(p)} + f_l^{(p)}$$

- In some problems, the  $f_k^{(p)}$  grow, but more slowly (i.e., same formula with  $p' > p$ ).
- Another result is generalization to cascade of powers.

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well-known growth      Komijani  $R_0$  (with finite # of terms)

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$$r_l = \underbrace{\left(\frac{2\beta_0}{p}\right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)}}_{\text{well-known growth}} \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{l-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left(\frac{p}{2\beta_0}\right)^k f_k^{(p)}}_{\text{Komijani } R_0 \text{ (with finite \# of terms)}} + \underbrace{f_l^{(p)}}_{\text{extra}}$$

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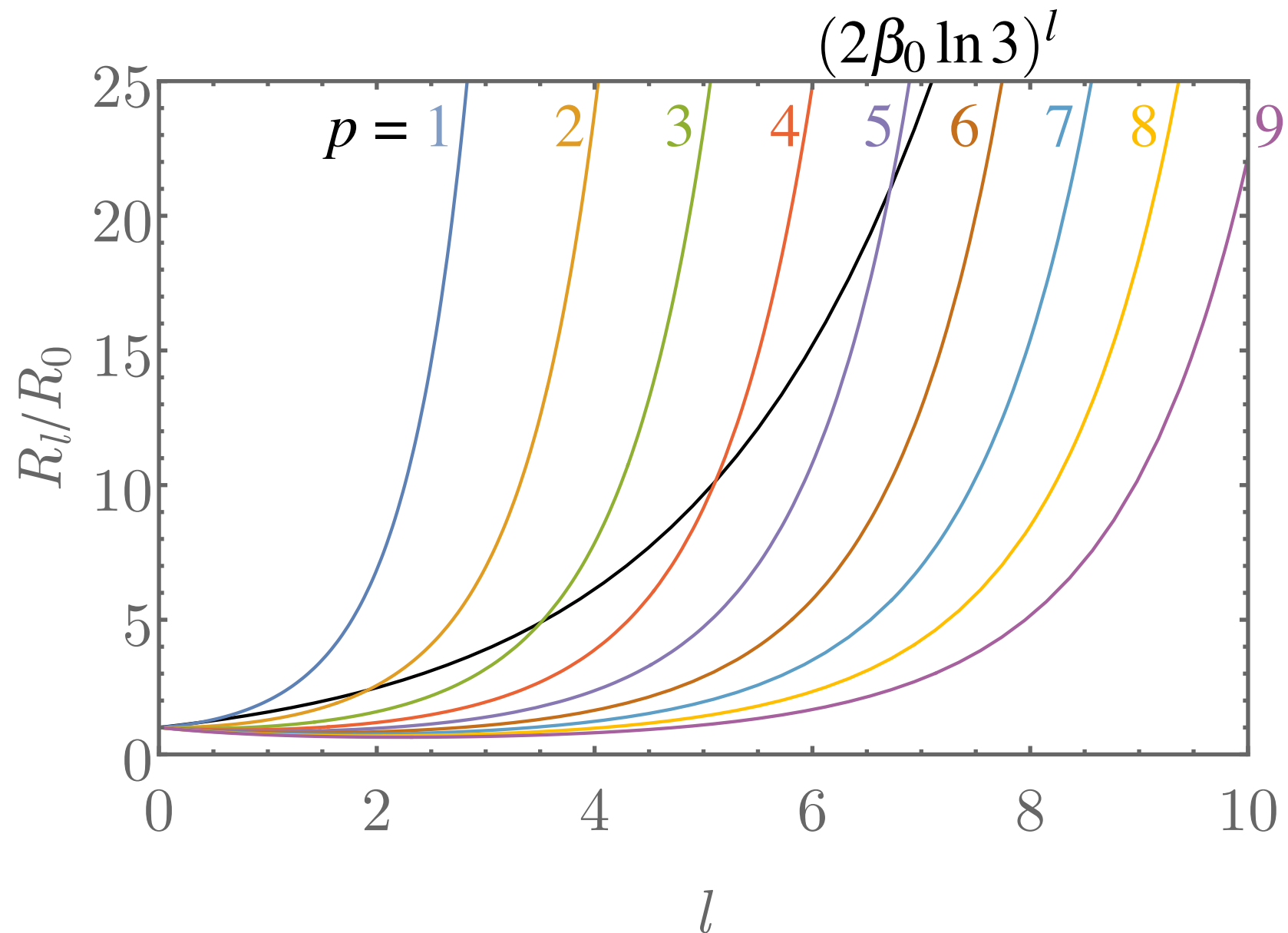
$$r_l = \underbrace{\left(\frac{2\beta_0}{p}\right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)}}_{\text{well-known growth}} \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{l-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left(\frac{p}{2\beta_0}\right)^k f_k^{(p)}}_{\text{Komijani } R_0 \text{ (with finite \# of terms)}} + \underbrace{f_l^{(p)}}_{\text{extra}}$$

We will use this form for a resummation.

- In some problems, the  $f_k^{(p)}$  grow, but more slowly (i.e., same formula with  $p' > p$ ).
- Another result is generalization to cascade of powers.

# Growth $\leftrightarrow$ Power

- Larger  $p \Rightarrow$  growth takes over at larger  $l$ .



# New Approximation for Perturbative Series

# Perturbative Series

---

- In practice, the  $r_l$  are in the literature for  $l < \mathbf{L}$ .
- The  $f_l$ ,  $l < \mathbf{L}$ , are obtained from them, and the formula returns these  $r_l$  (as it must).
- For  $l \geq \mathbf{L}$ , the formula tells us (formally) the largest part:

$$r_l = \underbrace{\left(\frac{2\beta_0}{p}\right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)}}_{\text{well-known growth}} \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{l-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left(\frac{p}{2\beta_0}\right)^k f_k^{(p)}}_{\text{Komijani } R_0 \text{ (truncated)}} \underbrace{+ f_l^{(p)}}_{\text{drop}}$$

use the approximate formula for the uncalculated terms.

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- For  $l \geq L$ , the formula tells us (formally) the largest part:

$$r_l \approx \underbrace{\left(\frac{2\beta_0}{p}\right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)}}_{\text{well-known growth}} \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{L-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left(\frac{p}{2\beta_0}\right)^k f_k^{(p)}}_{\text{Komijani } R_0 \text{ (truncated)}}$$

use the approximate formula for the uncalculated terms.

# Recap & Compendium

---

- That means  $\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} r_l \alpha_s^{l+1} \rightarrow \sum_{l=0}^{L-1} r_l \alpha_s^{l+1} + \sum_{l=L}^{\infty} R_l^{(p)} \alpha_s^{l+1}$

with

$$R_l^{(p)} \equiv R_0^{(p)} \left( \frac{2\beta_0}{p} \right)^l \frac{\Gamma(l+1+pb)}{\Gamma(1+pb)}$$

$$R_0^{(p)} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{L-1} (k+1) \frac{\Gamma(1+pb)}{\Gamma(k+2+pb)} \left( \frac{p}{2\beta_0} \right)^k f_k^{(p)}$$

- Justified because the retained terms are formally larger than the ones omitted.

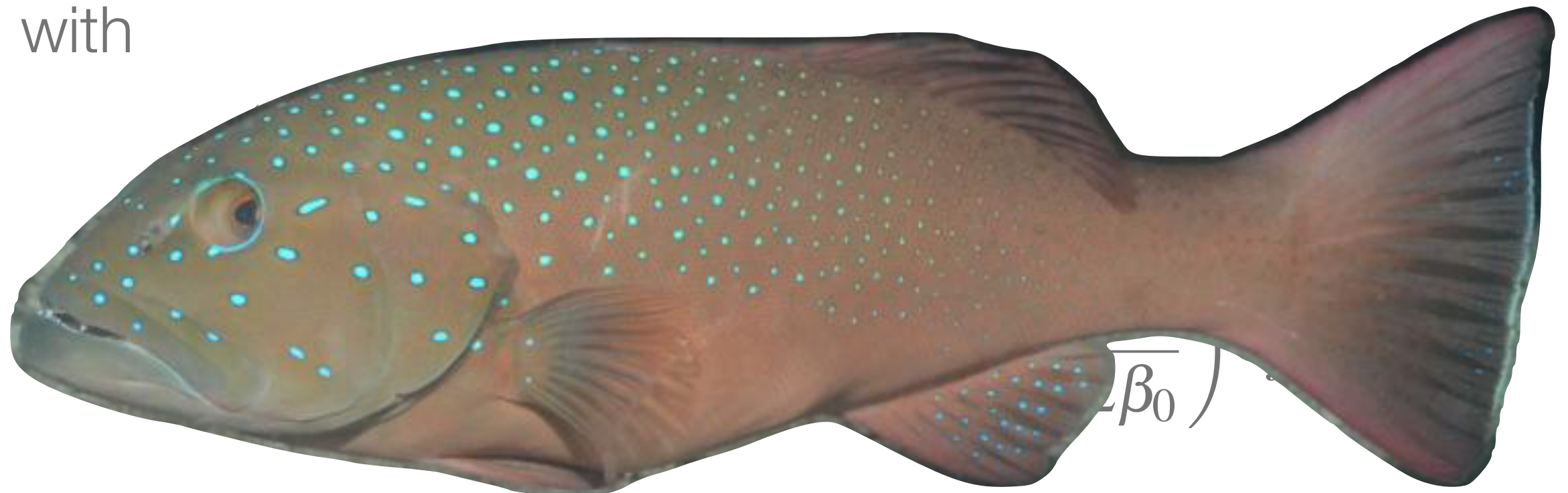


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# Borel Summation

# Rearrange and React

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- We have

$$\begin{aligned} R(Q) &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} r_l \alpha_s^{l+1} \rightarrow \sum_{l=0}^{L-1} r_l \alpha_s^{l+1} + \sum_{l=L}^{\infty} R_l^{(p)} \alpha_s^{l+1} \\ &= \underbrace{\sum_{l=0}^{L-1} \left( r_l - R_l^{(p)} \right) \alpha_s^{l+1}}_{R_{RS}^{(p)}(Q)} + \underbrace{\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} R_l^{(p)} \alpha_s^{l+1}}_{R_B^{(p)}(Q)} \end{aligned}$$

- The “renormalon subtracted” part and the “Borel” part.
- The  $R_l$  from above yield divergent sum for  $R_B$ , but we’re not done yet: **use Borel summation to assign meaning.**

# Assignment

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- Thus, we now define

$$R_B^{(p)}(Q) = R_0^{(p)} \frac{p}{2\beta_0} \mathcal{J}(pb, p/2\beta_0 \alpha_g(Q))$$

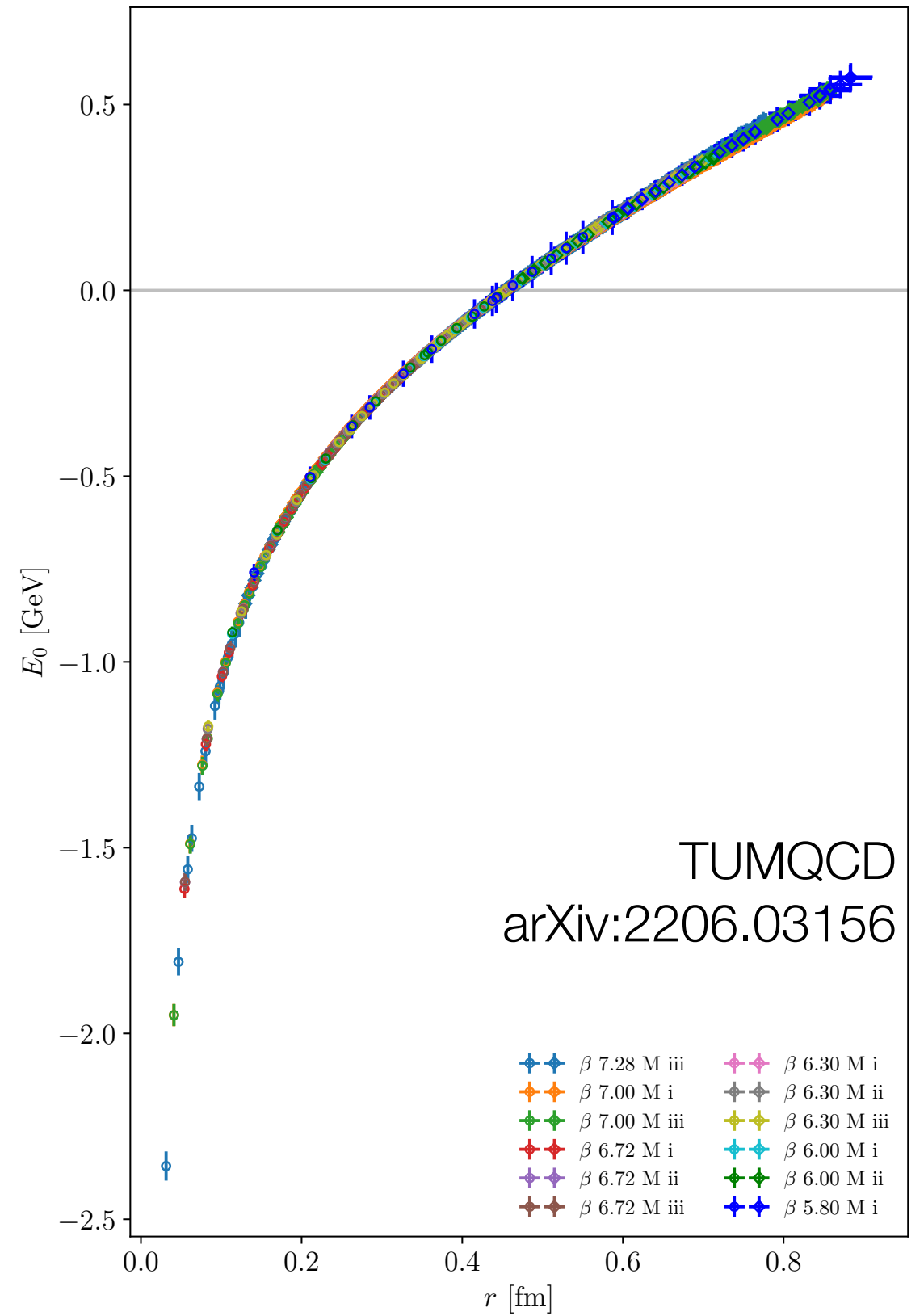
$$\mathcal{J}(c, y) = e^{-y} \Gamma(-c) \gamma^*(-c, -y)$$

where  $\gamma^*(a, x)$  is an analytic function of both  $a$  and  $x$ :

limiting function of the incomplete gamma function

- convergent expansion in  $x = -1/2\beta_0 \alpha_g$ ;
- asymptotic expansion in  $\alpha_g$  regenerates the starting point; the dropped term is  $O(e^{-p/2\beta_0 \alpha_g})$ .

# Static Energy



# Static Energy

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- Quantity extracted from oblong Wilson loops:
  - perturbative **potential** has IR divergences starting at 3 loops [[Appelquist, Dine, Muzinich 1978](#)];
  - compensated by multipole (retardation) term [[Brambilla, Pineda, Soto, Vairo 1999, 2000](#)].
- Perturbative series:

$$E_0(r) = -\frac{C_F}{r} \sum_{l=0} v_l(\mu r) \alpha_s(\mu)^{l+1} + \Lambda_0$$

- In notation used above,  $Q \rightarrow 1/r$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(1/r) = -rE_0(r)/C_F$ .

# Related Quantities

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- Perturbation theory carried out in momentum space:

$$\tilde{R}(q) = \sum_{l=0} a_l (\mu/q) \alpha_s(\mu)^{l+1}$$

- Leading power/factorial comes from Fourier transform, so  $\tilde{R}(q)$  has  $p > 1$ .
- The “static force”

$$\mathfrak{F}(r) = -\frac{dE_0}{dr} \quad \mathcal{F}(r) = F^{(1)}(1/r) = -r^2 \mathfrak{F}(r) / C_F$$

has no power corrections (until instantons at  $p \geq 9$ ).

# Coefficients at $\mu = 1/r$ or $\mu = q$

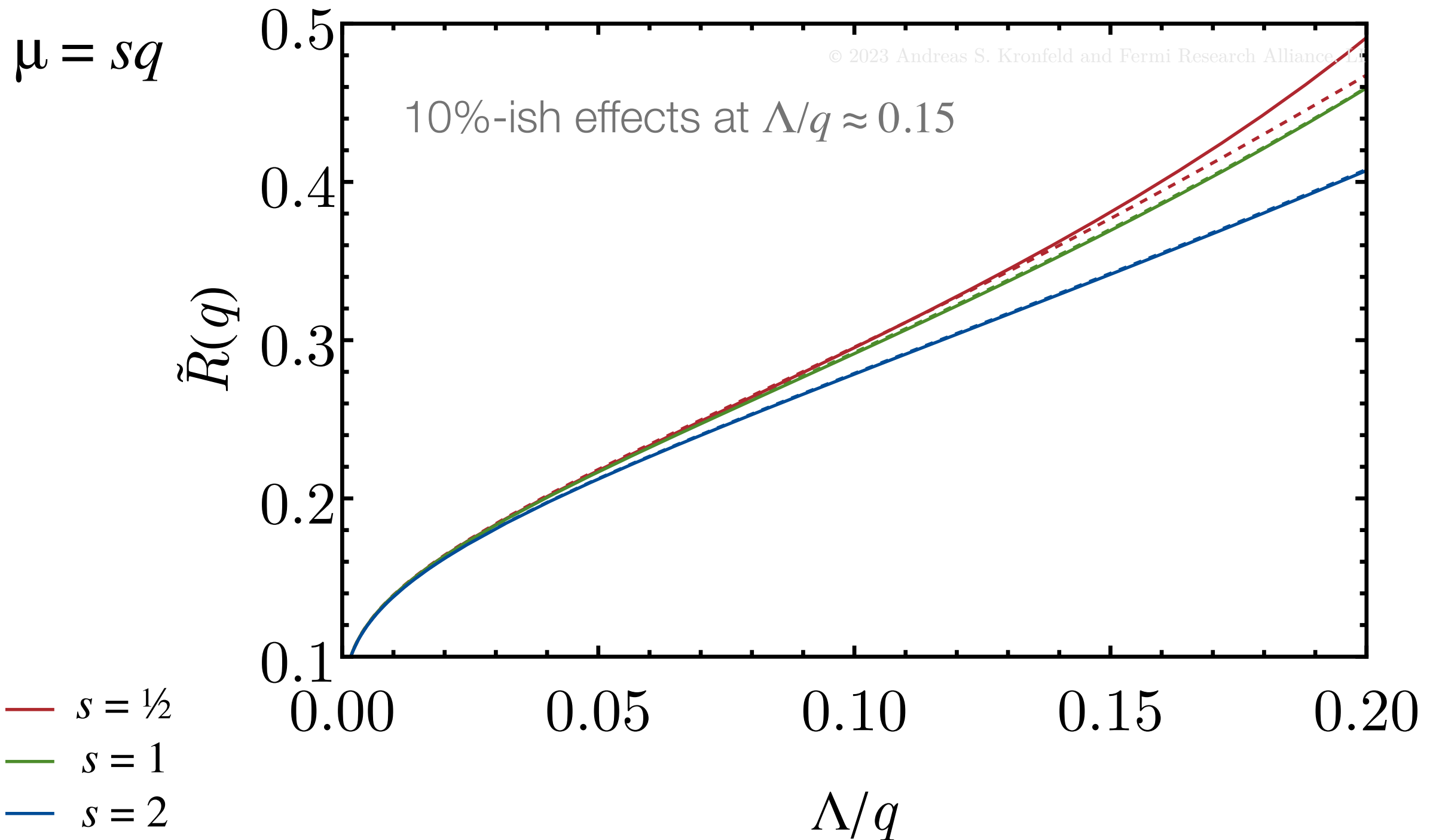
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$l$	$\overline{MS}$		geometric		$\alpha_2$	
	$a_l(1)$	$f_l(1)$	$a_l(1)$	$f_l(1)$	$a_l(1)$	$f_l(1)$
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0.557042	-0.048552	0.557042	-0.048552	0.557042	-0.048552
2	1.70218	0.687291	1.83497	0.820079	1.83497	0.820079
3	2.43687	0.323257	2.83268	0.558242	3.01389	0.739452

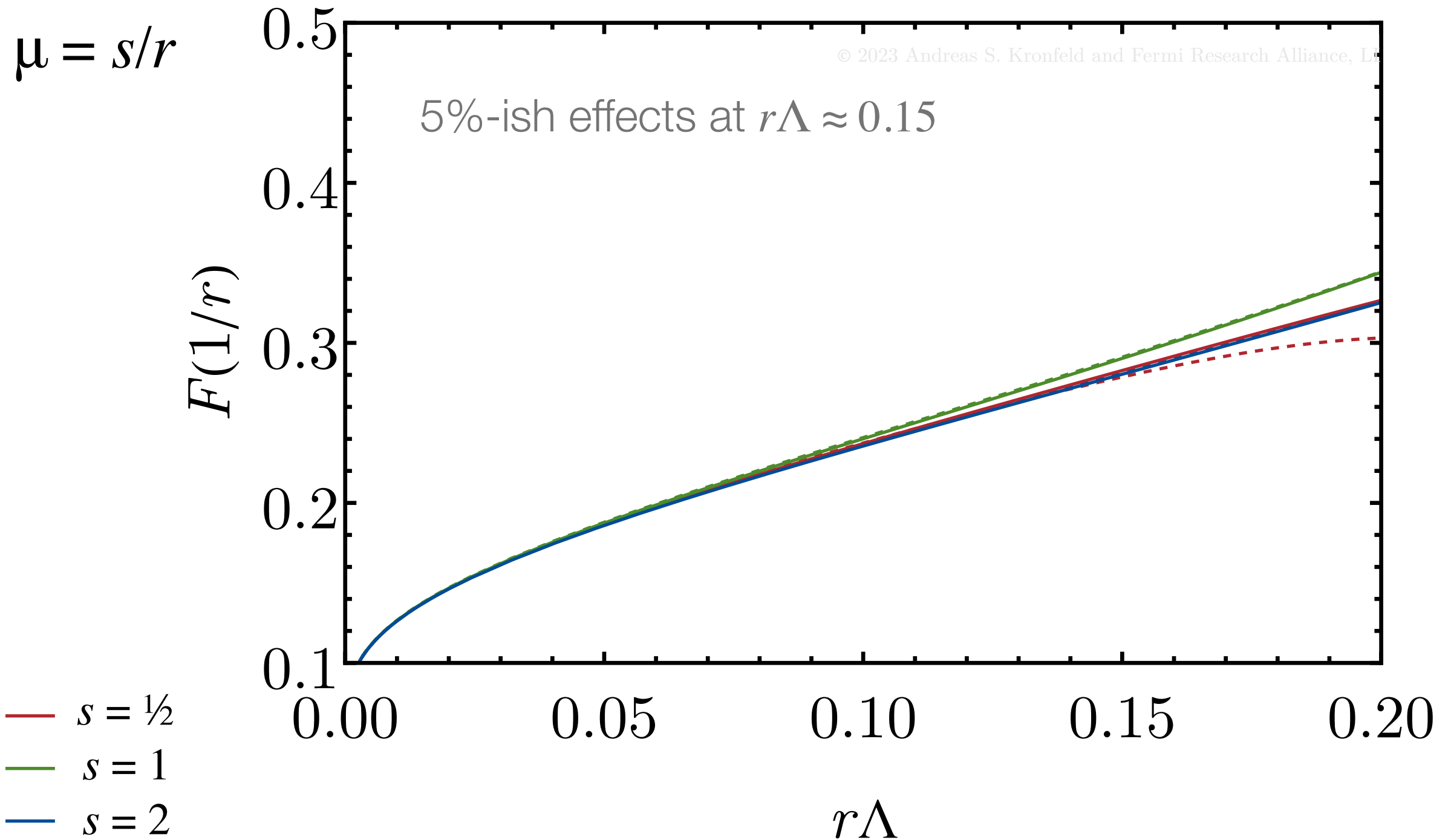
$l$	$\overline{MS}$		geometric		$\alpha_2$	
	$v_l(1)$	$v_l(1) - V_l(1)$	$v_l(1)$	$v_l(1) - V_l(1)$	$v_l(1)$	$v_l(1) - V_l(1)$
0	1	0.206061	1	0.182531	1	0.177584
1	1.38384	-0.202668	1.38384	-0.249689	1.38384	-0.259574
2	5.46228	0.019479	5.59507	-0.009046	5.59507	-0.042959
3	26.6880	0.219262	27.3034	0.050179	27.4846	0.066468



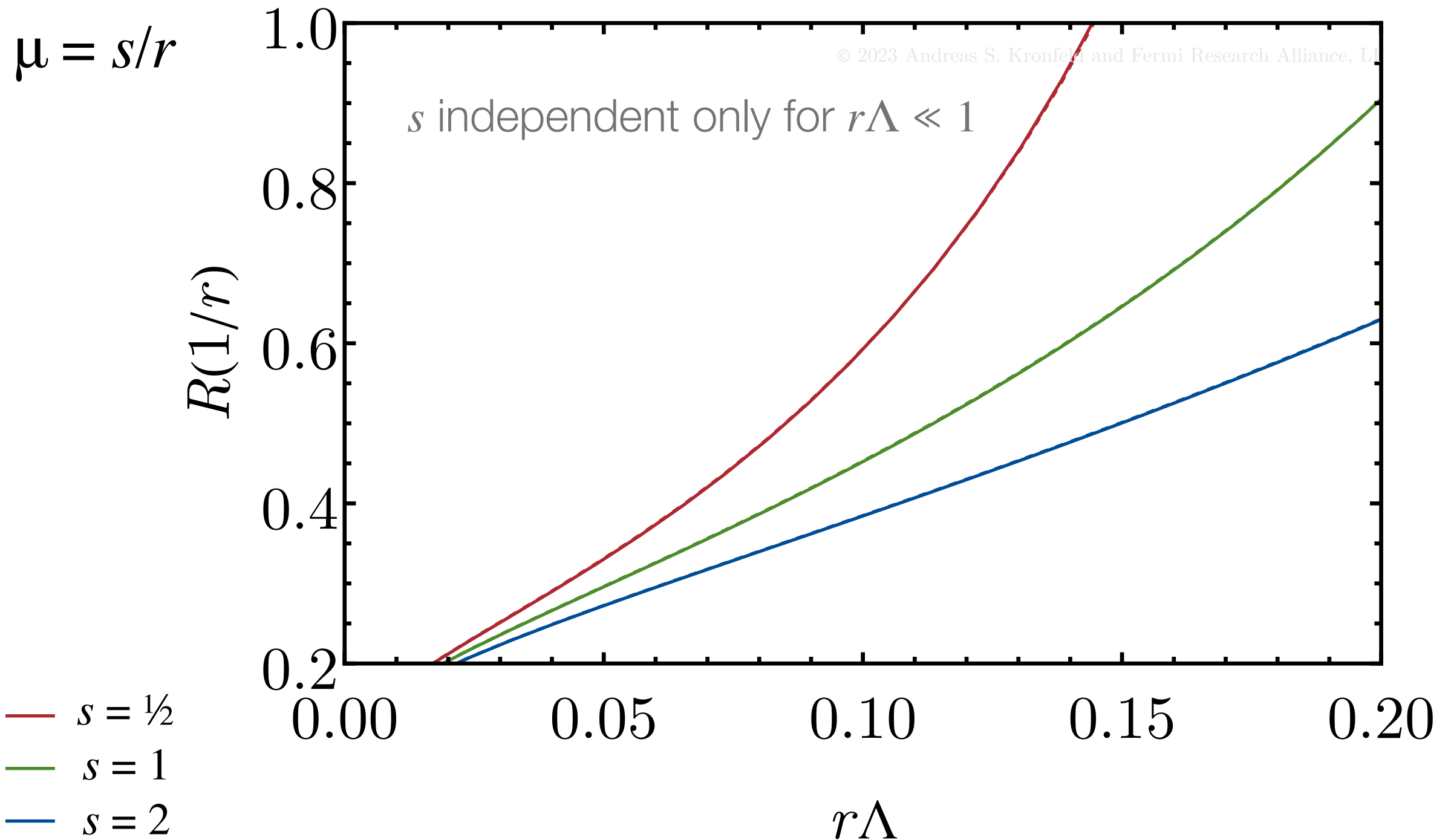
# Good Series (at most $p > 1$ growth)



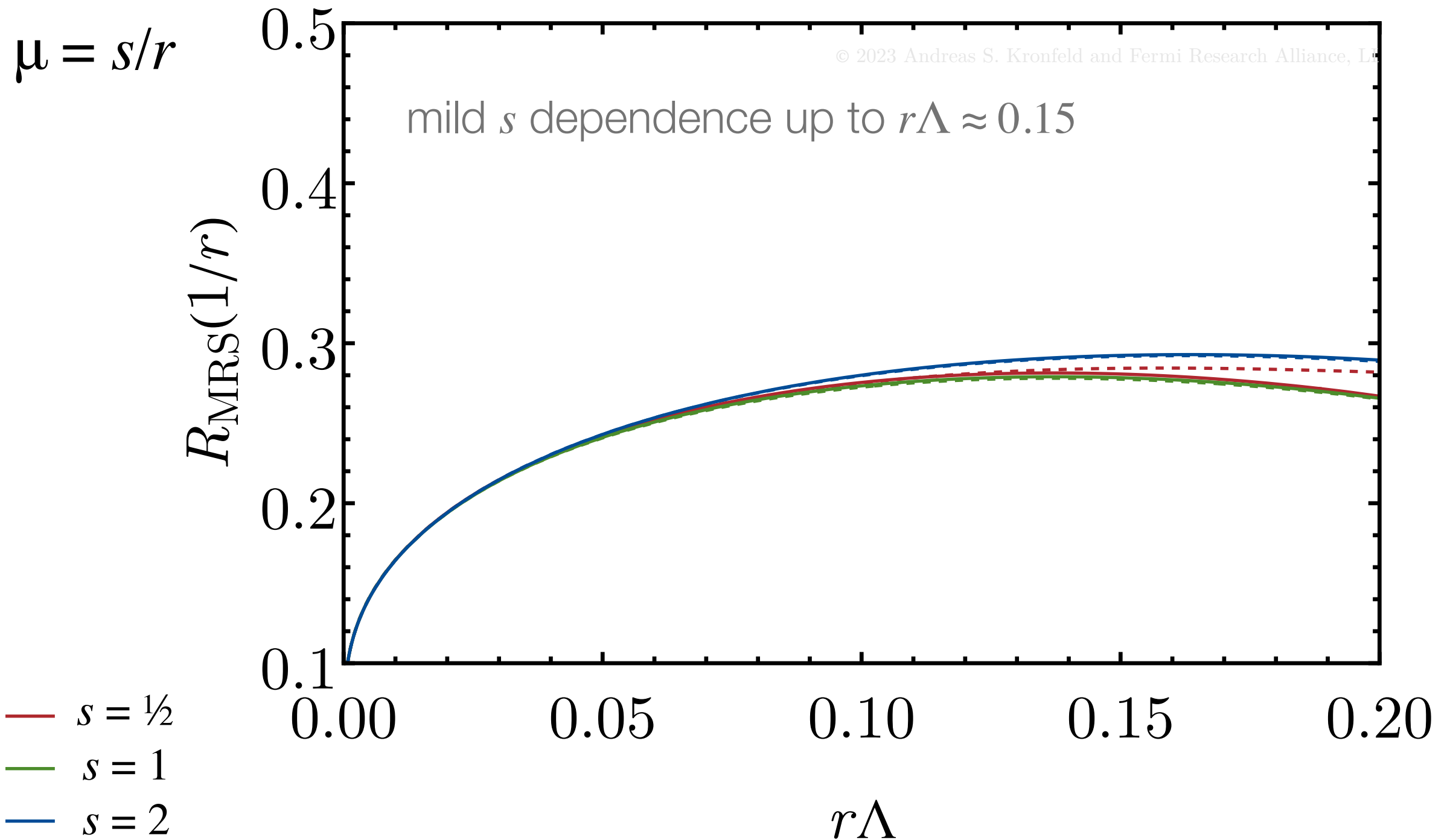
# Great Series (instanton power $p \geq 9$ )



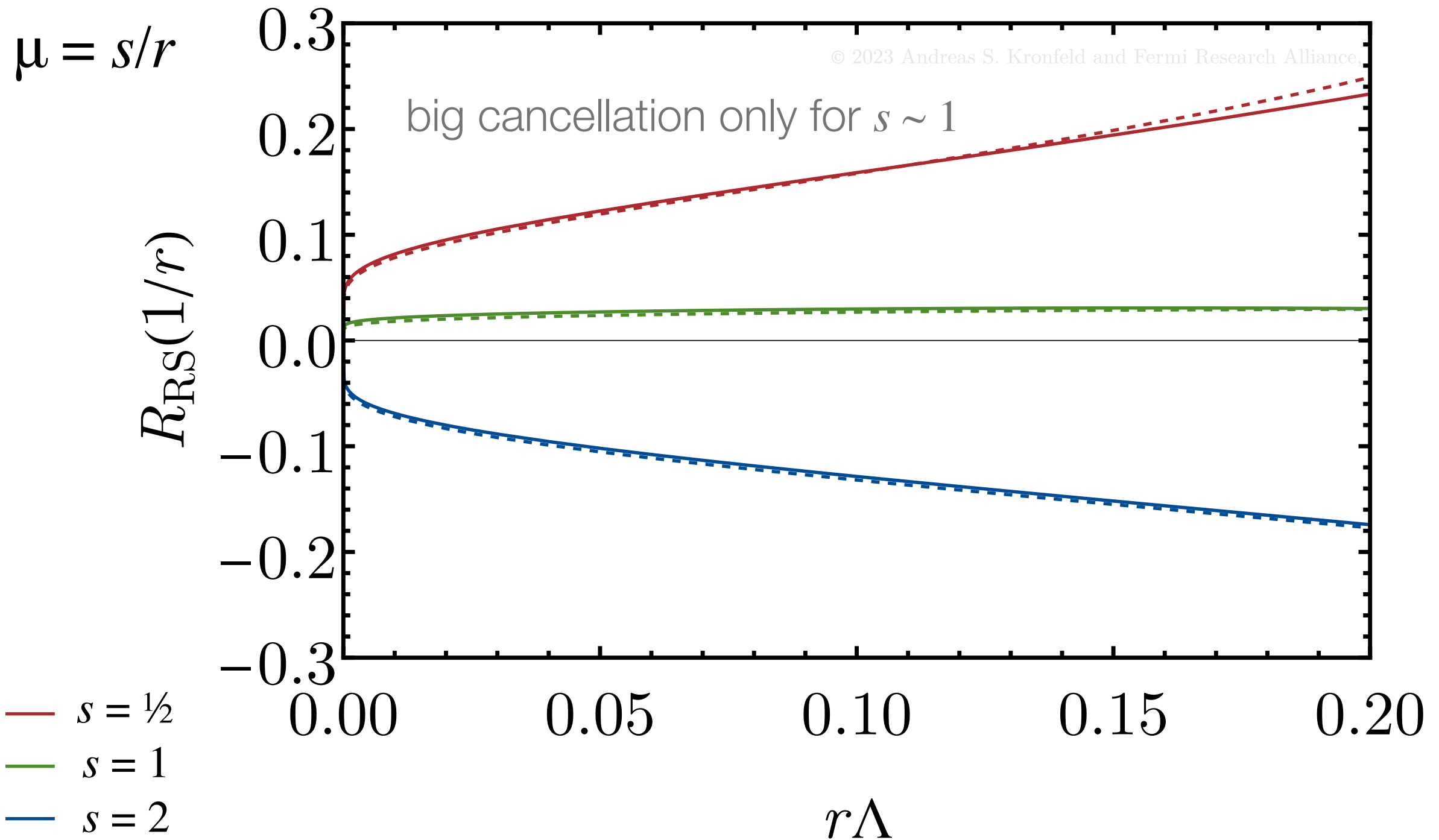
# Horrible Series ( $p = 1$ )



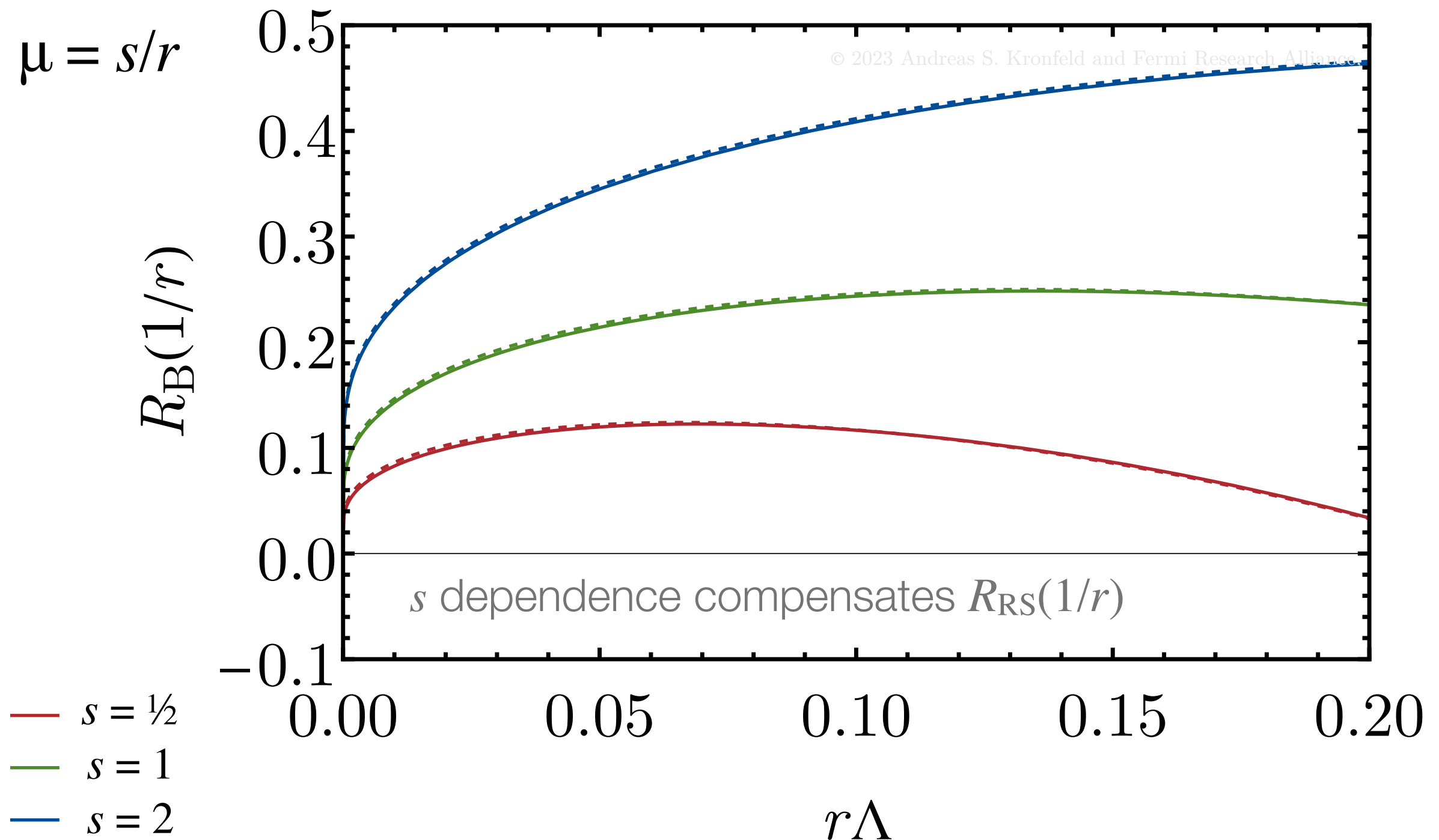
# MRS Series



# Renormalon Subtracted Series



The part that is a convergent series in  $1/\alpha_s$

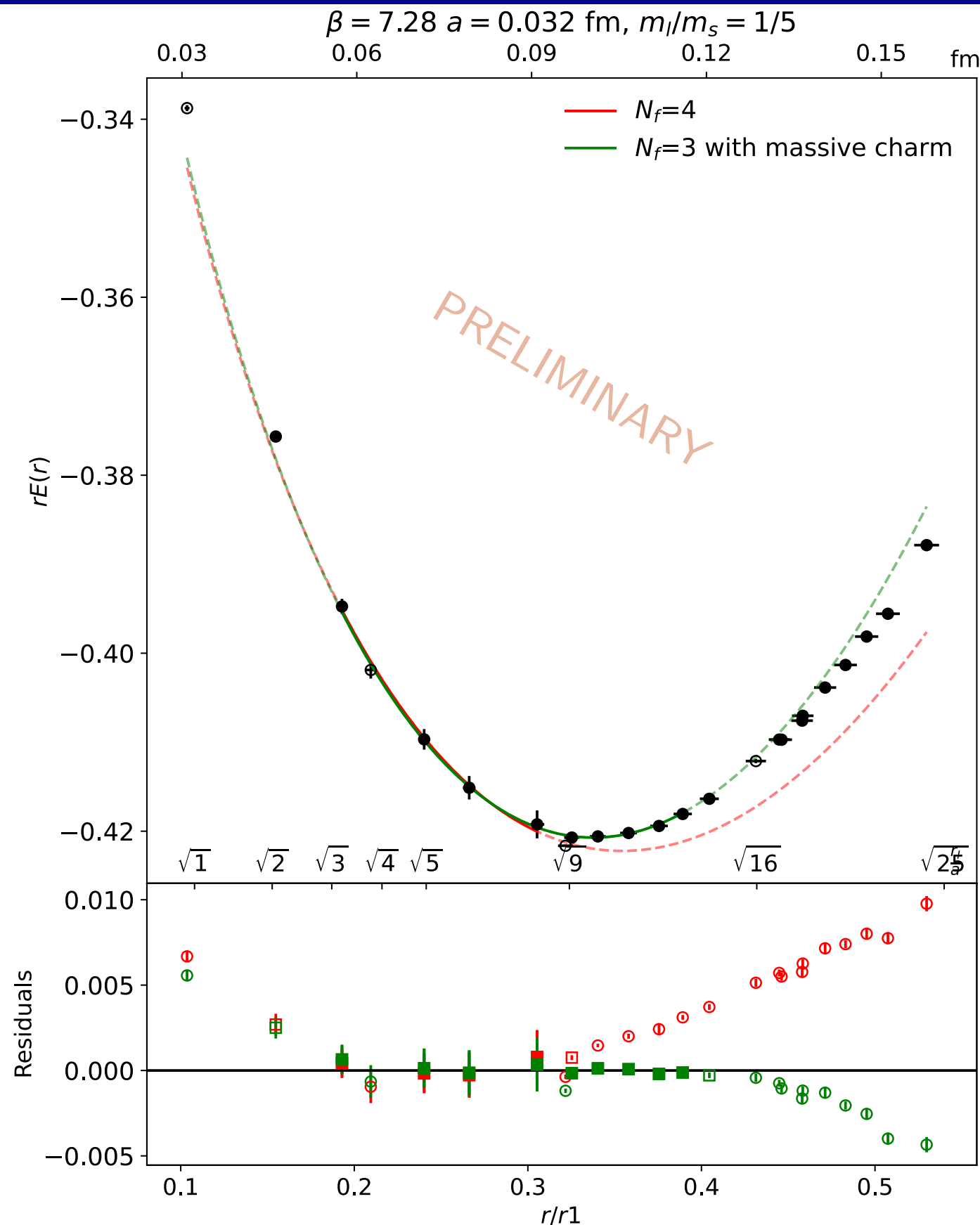


# Fitting with Power Corrections

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- The  $\Lambda$  on the horizontal axis is  $\Lambda_{\overline{MS}}$ 
  - fits to data will have this as free parameter, i.e., optimization will stretch/shrink the curves to fit.
- Let's go back to the plots and get a feel for adding small amounts of order  $(\Lambda/q)^2$  or 3 or 4,  $(\Lambda r)^9$ , or  $\Lambda r$ .
- Disentangling power-law and logarithmic dependence seems hard for  $R(1/r)$ , but not for  $R_{\overline{MS}}(1/r)$ .

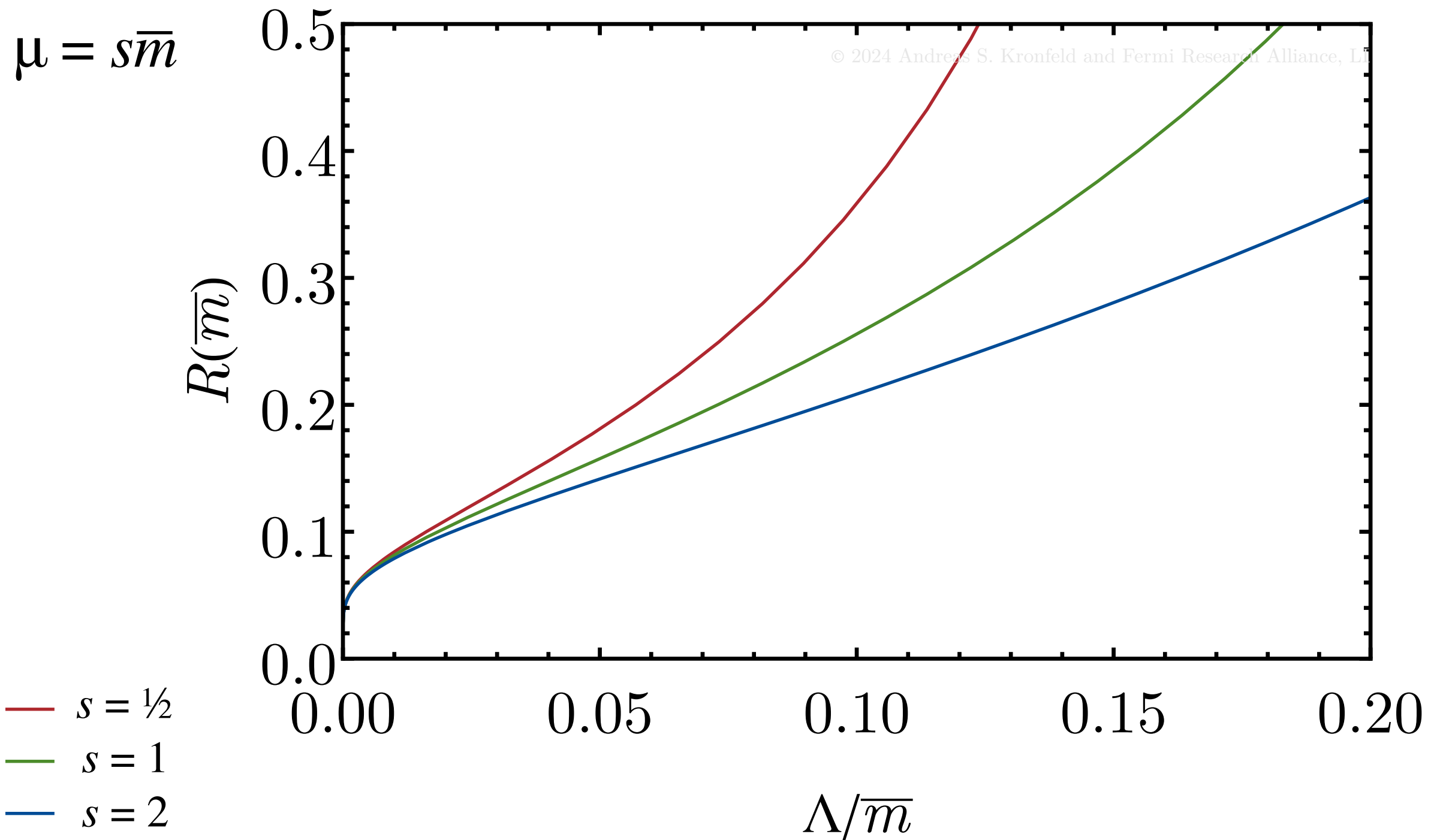




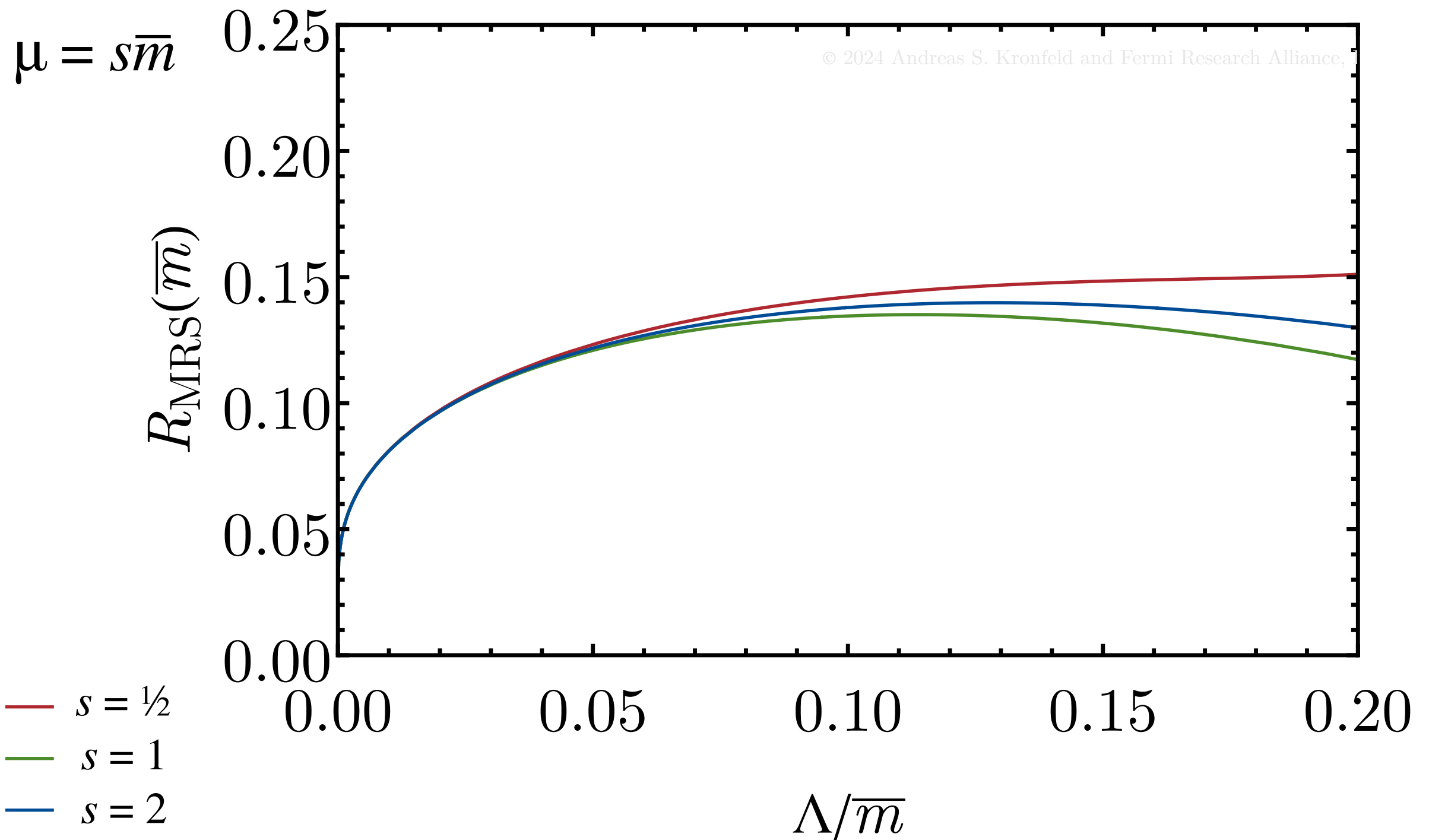
- Start fits from  $r/a = \sqrt{3}$
  - From [TUMQCD2019](#)
  - PT works up to  $\sim 0.13$  fm
  - Charm effects noticeable already at  $r > 0.1$  fm
  - Charm effects:  
 limit to 2-loop accuracy
  - Drop on-axis points due to large discretization effects
  - Model average (AIC) over valid fit ranges
  - Correlated fits,  
 blocked jackknife
- ← Example: Finest ensemble, 2-loops no us-resum., MRS



# Pole Mass's Horrible Series ( $p = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ )



# Pole Mass's MRS Series



# Quark Mass Results

arXiv:1802.04248

- Masses in numerical form:

$$m_{l,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 3.402(15)_{\text{stat}}(05)_{\text{syst}}(19)_{\alpha_s}(04)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{u,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 2.130(18)_{\text{stat}}(35)_{\text{syst}}(12)_{\alpha_s}(03)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{d,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 4.675(30)_{\text{stat}}(39)_{\text{syst}}(26)_{\alpha_s}(06)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{s,\overline{\text{MS}}}(2 \text{ GeV}) = 92.47(39)_{\text{stat}}(18)_{\text{syst}}(52)_{\alpha_s}(11)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{c,\overline{\text{MS}}}(3 \text{ GeV}) = 983.7(4.3)_{\text{stat}}(1.4)_{\text{syst}}(3.3)_{\alpha_s}(0.5)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

$$m_{b,\overline{\text{MS}}}(m_{b,\overline{\text{MS}}}) = 4201(12)_{\text{stat}}(1)_{\text{syst}}(8)_{\alpha_s}(1)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}} \text{ MeV}$$

- Mass ratios:

$$m_c/m_s = 11.783(11)_{\text{stat}}(21)_{\text{syst}}(00)_{\alpha_s}(08)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$$

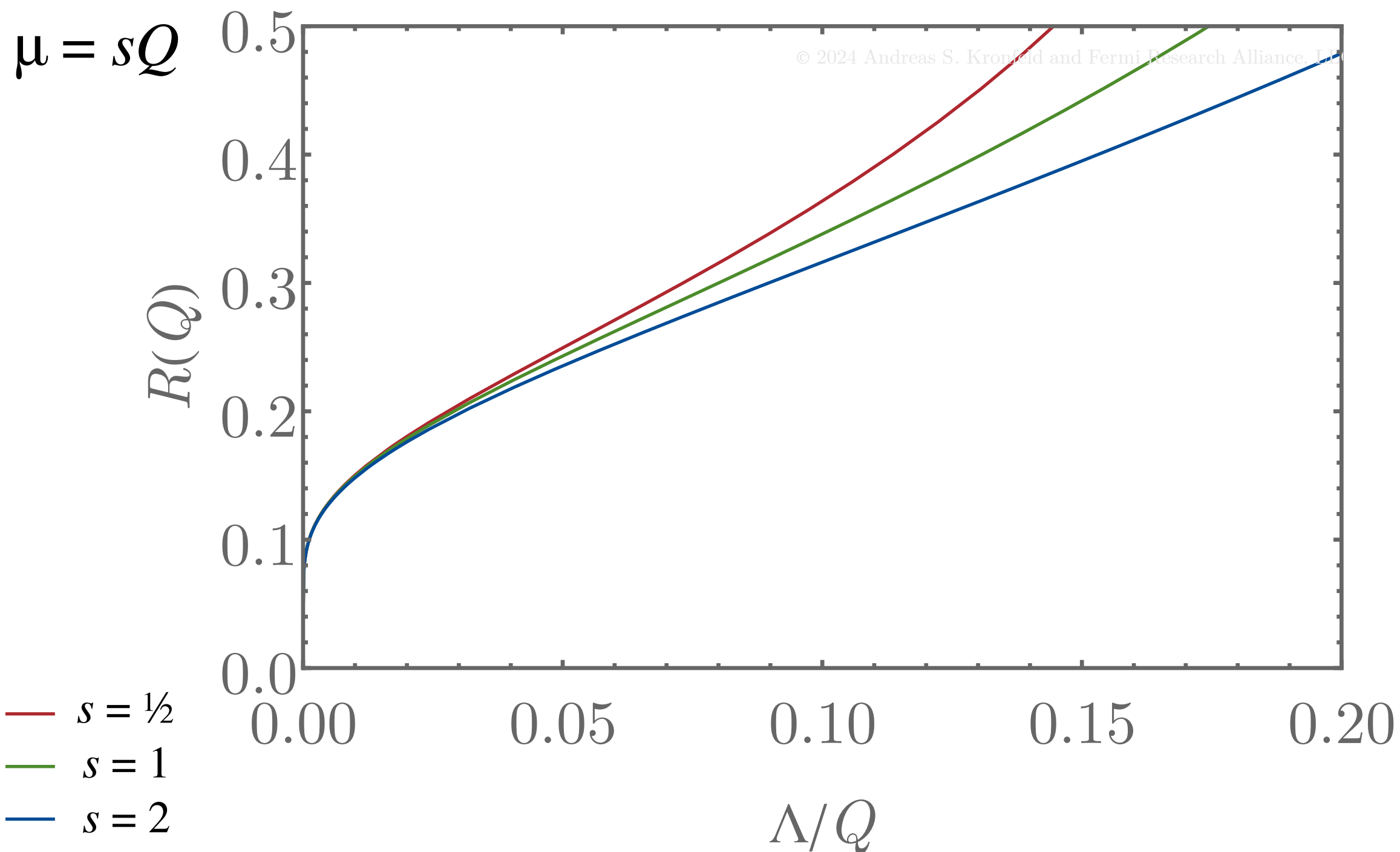
$$m_b/m_s = 53.94(6)_{\text{stat}}(10)_{\text{syst}}(1)_{\alpha_s}(5)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$$

$$m_b/m_c = 4.578(5)_{\text{stat}}(6)_{\text{syst}}(0)_{\alpha_s}(1)_{f_{\pi,\text{PDG}}}$$

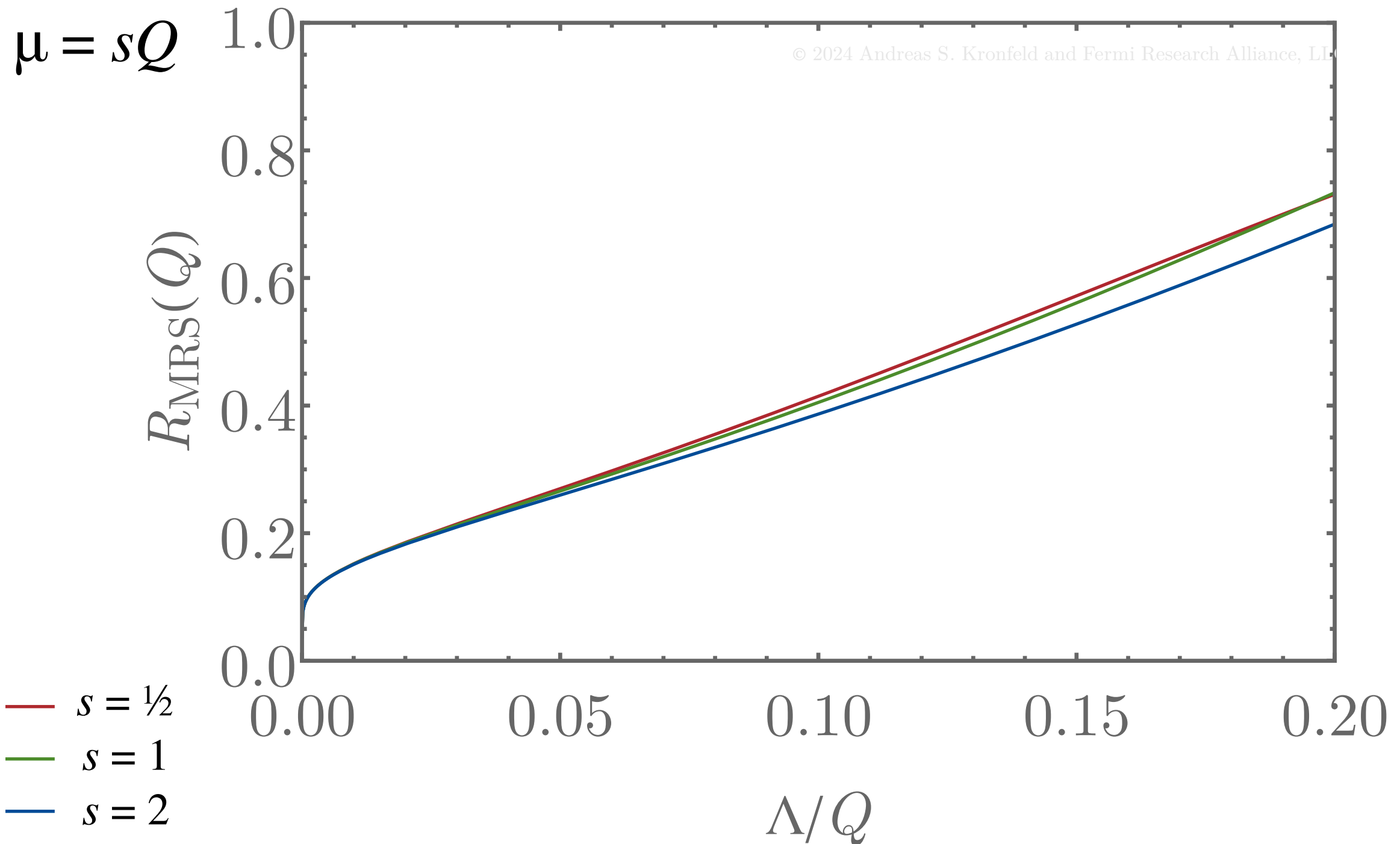
Two or More Power Corrections



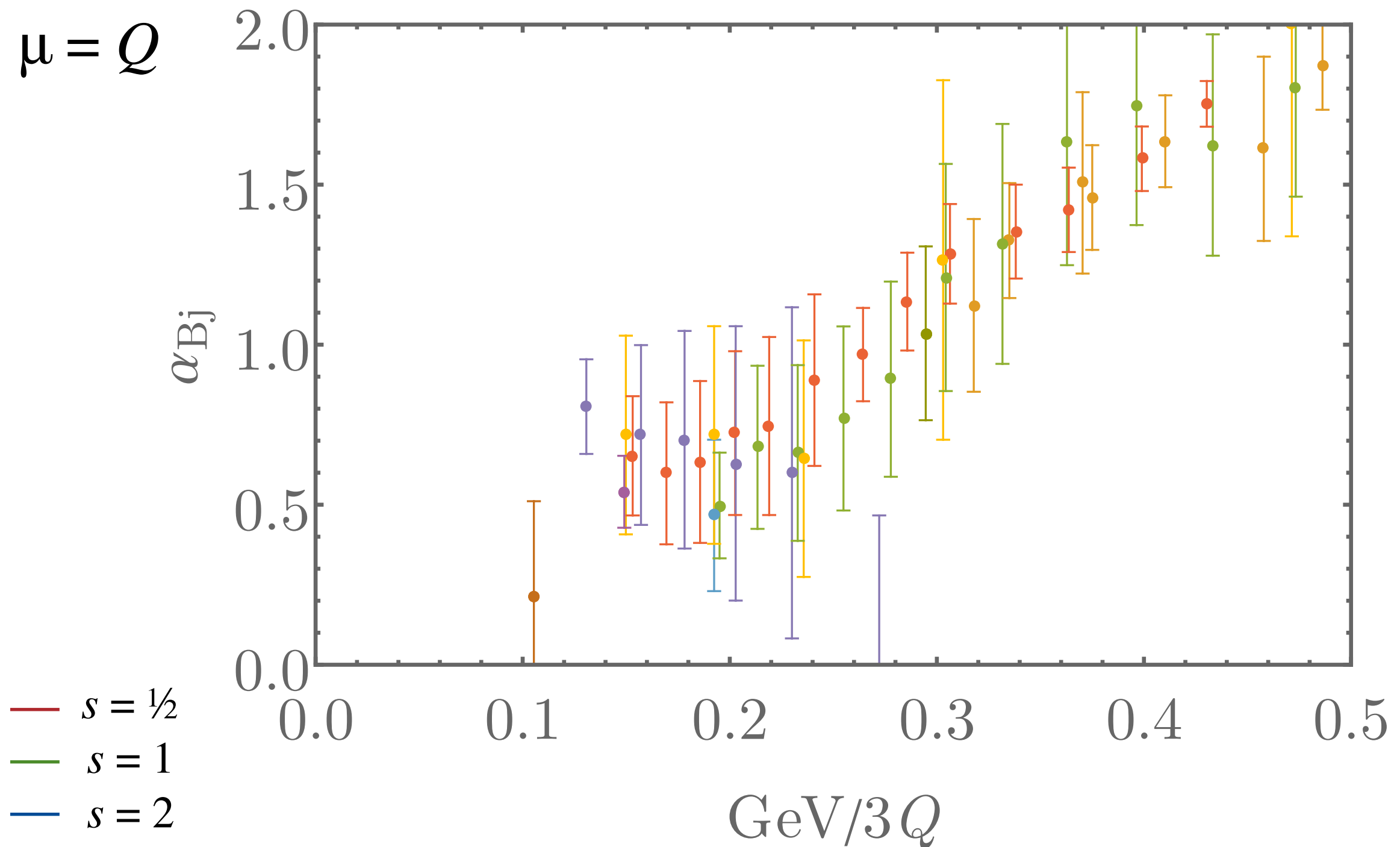
# Bjorken Sum Rule's Horrible Series ( $p = 2$ )



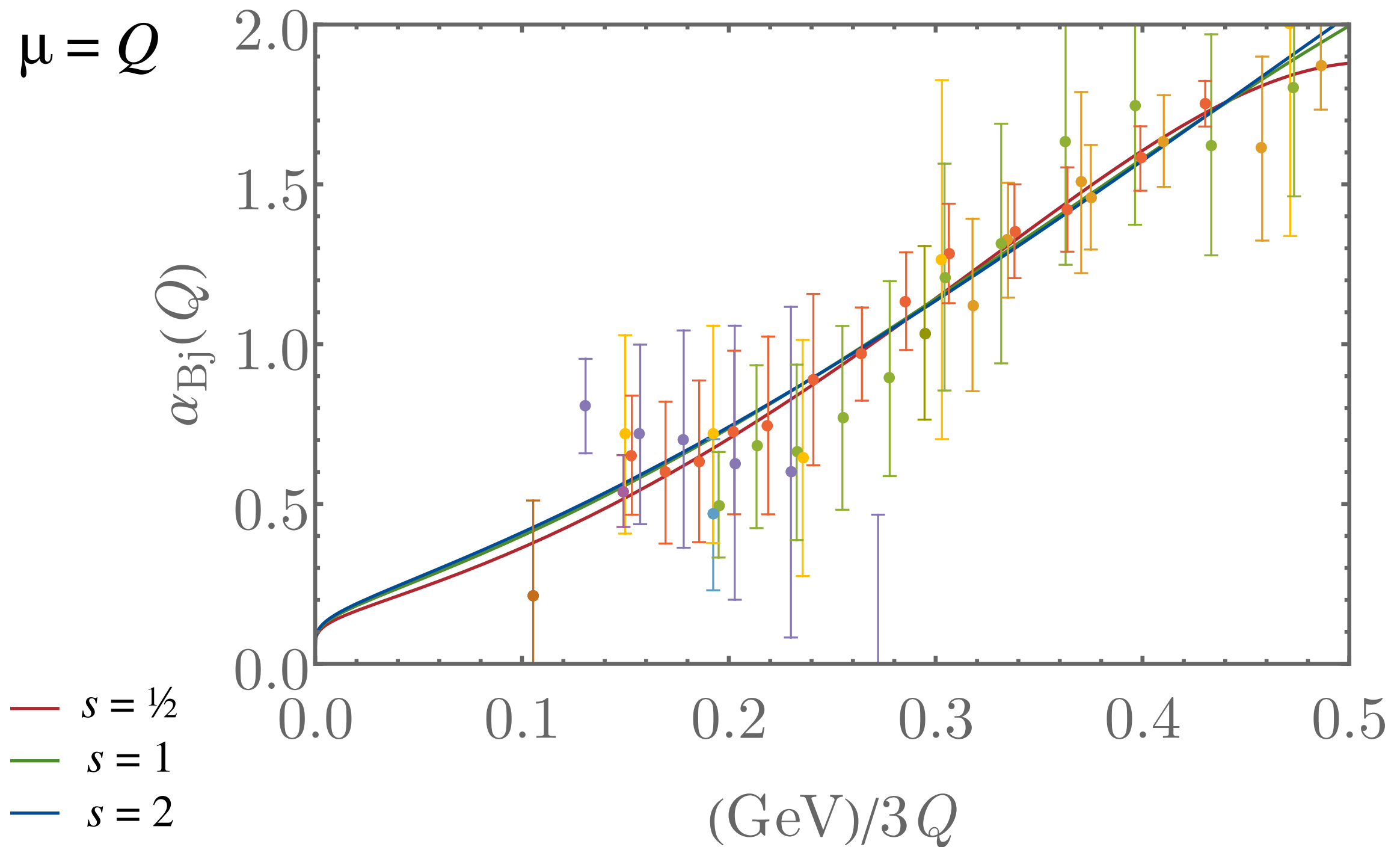
# Bjorken Sum Rule's MRS Series



# Bjorken Sum Rule Experimental Data

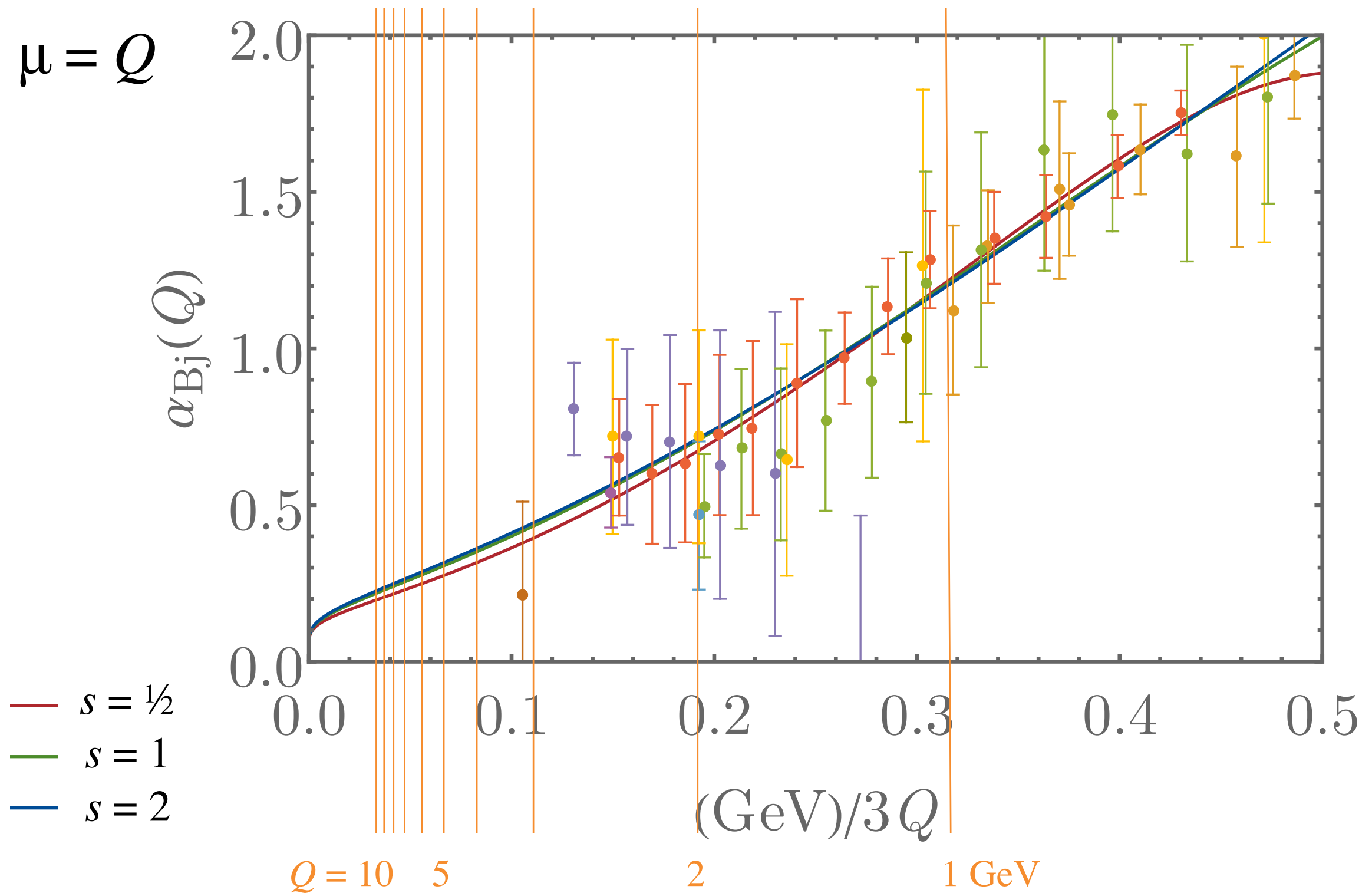


# Bjorken Sum Rule Two-Parameter Fits





# Bjorken Sum Rule Two-Parameter Fits



Summary

# Summary

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- MRS revisited for any sequence of power corrections  $\leftrightarrow$  dominant, subdominant, sub-subdominant, ... growth.
- Formulas for growth and normalization both follow from RGE and hold exactly at low orders.
- Standard to sum logarithms; let's sum factorials too—
  - reduction or elimination of truncation uncertainty!
- Better name needed: “renormalons” are not subtracted, but a class of (now) known contributions is summed.

Thank you for your attention

**Questions?**